Docket Number: 008312-0309409

Client Reference: T4HT-04S0253-1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of

SHINYA TOKUDA, et al.

Group Art Unit: UNKNOWN

Application No.: TO BE ASSIGNED

Examiner: UNKNOWN

Filed: April 23, 2004

Confirmation No.: UNKNOWN

For: IMAGE PROCESSING SYSTEM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner return an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to Applicants with the next Office communication to indicate that the references have been considered, per MPEP § 609.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.

Relevance of the non-English language references are discussed in the present specification and/or in the English-language Abstracts of the non-English language references attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted

Jeffrey D. Karceski

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Date: April 23, 2004

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| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO | | | | Complete if Known | | | |
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| | | | | Application Number | UNKNOWN | | |
| INI | FORMATION DISC | CLO | SURE | Filing Date | 04/23/2004 | | |
| STATEMENT BY APPLICANT | | | | First Named Inventor | SHINYA TOKUDA | | |
| 31 | AILMENT DI AI | | | Art Unit | UNKNOWN | | |
| | (Use as many sheets as nec | essarv) | | Examiner Name | UNKNOWN | | |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | 008312-0309409 | | |

| U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
|------------------------|--------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No.1 | Document Number Number-Kind Code ^{2 (If known)} | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | |
| | 1 | ^{US-} 2001/0040980 A1 | 11/15/2001 | YAMAGUCHI | | |
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|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------|--|-----------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | | Patent Document ode ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (<i>if known</i>) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | Т ⁶ |
| | 1 | J P | 11-355554 | 12/24/1999 | YAMAGUCHI | Abstract | <u> </u> |
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| | 5 | ΙP | 6-59739 | 03/04/1994 | SUGIMORI | Abstract | 1 |

| Examiner | Date | |
|-----------|------------|--|
| Signature | Considered | |

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not user considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.